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FOR DEPUTY SECRETARY NEGROPONTE, ACTING U/S ROOD, AND A/S
WELCH FROM AMBASSADOR JAVITS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 09/22/2018
TAGS: [PARM](#) [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [CWC](#) [LE](#)
SUBJECT: REQUEST TO ADD LEBANON'S ACCESSION TO THE CHEMICAL
WEAPONS CONVENTION TO PRESIDENT BUSH'S MEETING WITH
PRESIDENT SLEIMAN

Classified By: Ambassador Eric M. Javits for reasons 1.4 (d) and (e).

This is CWC-41-08.

[1](#)1. (U) This is an action message -- see para 4.

[1](#)2. (S) I just learned from the Legal Advisor to the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons that Lebanon is under great pressure from Egypt and Syria not to accede to the Chemical Weapons Convention, while other Arab states, already members, want them to join the Convention. Lebanon has been one step away from accession for many months; it has only to deliver its letter of accession to New York and had been waiting for the new President to sign the letter.

[1](#)3. (S) The Director-General of the OPCW has learned that President Sleiman will be meeting with President Bush on the margins of the UNGA and has requested that the U.S. weigh in at this highest level to encourage Lebanon's accession to the CWC.

[1](#)4. (S) Action Requested: I would strongly urge the Department to insert a talking point in President Bush's briefing papers to urge the Lebanese President to complete his government's accession to the Chemical Weapons Convention. Lebanon's accession, along with Iraq's (also imminent), would be a critical step toward accomplishing universal adherence to this important arms control and non-proliferation Convention.

[1](#)5. (U) Javits sends.
Culbertson